



Pete Ricketts, Governor

DATE: April 6, 2020
TO: NDCS Team Members
FROM: Scott R. Frakes, Director
RE: Masks for Incarcerated Individuals

On Friday, we implemented the requirement that all staff members wear procedure masks while in NDCS facilities/vehicles. I appreciate your cooperation with this practice, which is now also advised by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). We know it won't stop it, but we will do our part to minimize the spread of COVID-19.

Cornhusker State Industries (CSI) produced the staff masks (orange) and is currently producing masks for the incarcerated population. By tomorrow, masks will be available to issue to the population. As soon as they are available, we will begin distributing them. CSI is producing masks in colors consistent with state-issued clothing for the community centers (gray) and all other facilities (khaki).

Masks will be issued at community centers on Tuesday, April 7, 2020. Distribution to facilities will be completed as soon as a supply sufficient for that facility is available.

I recognize the use of masks presents some challenges to the work we do. But, as with all the changes we have implemented, this is for the health and safety of you, the incarcerated population and everyone in the community. It is important that we all remain diligent in monitoring activities to flatten the spread of COVID-19. Excellent sanitation, hand-washing, quick assessment of symptoms, social distancing and masks to limit the spread of airborne droplets are all strategies shown to help keep us safe.

Scott R. Frakes, Director

Dept of Correctional Services

P.O. Box 94661 Lincoln, NE 68509-4661
Phone: 402-471-2654 Fax: 402-479-5623

corrections.nebraska.gov